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## ABSTRACT

The Irvington Public Library (Irvington, New Jersey) conducted a project that involved recruitment, retention, public awareness, training, basic literacy, collection development, tutoring, and intergenerational/family programs. The project served a community of 25,000-50,000 people, and targeted the learned disabled and intergenerational/families. Tutoring was done one-on-one and in classrooms, using the Laubach and Literacy Volunteers of America (LVA) methods. The project served more than 136 adult learners and provided 2-5 hours of direct tutoring per week. The report provides a comparison of actual accomplishments to goals and objectives set forth in the grant application; comparison between proposed and actual expenditures; specific details of activities undertaken; the role the library played in the accomplishment of the goals and objectives; agencies and organizations that assisted in the project; and the impact of the federal project on the ongoing program of the library. Includes a sample of student interviews and interview guide; promotional materials; college acceptance letter of a former GED student; tutor materials, tutor follow-up questionnaire; news articles about the program; outline of the family literacy program; and student and tutor/instructor of the year awards. (SWC)

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**Irvington Public Library, Final Performance Report  
for Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA)  
Title VI,  
Library Literacy Program**

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT  
LIBRARY PROGRAMS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20208-5571

FINAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

for

Library Services and Construction Act, Title VI  
Library Literacy Program

(CFDA No. 84.167)

Final Performance Report for  
LSCA, Title VI  
Library Literacy Program

January 1994

PART I: General Information

1. Irvington Public Library  
Civic Square  
Irvington, NJ 07111
2. Holly Shader  
(201) 372-6400
3. Grant #R167A20146
4. \$33,500 grant amount  
\$33,500 amount expended

## Part II: Quantitative Data

Provide the following information about this project by filling in the blanks or putting a checkmark next to the answer that best describes your project. If any of the questions are not relevant to this project, write N/A.

1. What is the size of the community served by this project?

- ☐ under 10,000
- ☐ between 10,000 - 25,000
- ☒ between 25,000 - 50,000
- ☐ between 50,000 - 100,000
- ☐ between 100,000-200,000
- ☐ over 200,000

2. What type of project was this? (Check as many as applicable)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recruitment      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collection Development   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Retention        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tutoring                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Space Renovation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Assisted                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coalition Building          | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Technology                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Awareness | <input type="checkbox"/> Employment Oriented                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Training         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intergenerational/Family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Oriented              | <input type="checkbox"/> English as a Second Language (ESL)  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic Literacy   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) _____      |  |

3. Did you target a particular population? (Check as many as applicable)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Homebound                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing Impaired                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors/Older Citizens                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visually Impaired                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Migrant Workers                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Learning Disabled         | <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Tribes                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mentally Disabled                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intergenerational/Families |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Workforce/Workplace                  | <input type="checkbox"/> English as a Second Language          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inmates of Correctional Institutions |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) _____               |  |

4. If this project involved tutoring, what tutoring method was used?

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laubach | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LVA   | <input type="checkbox"/> Michigan Method |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orton-Gillingham   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) |  |

5. If this project involved tutoring, how was it provided? (check as many as applicable)

☒ one-to-one tutoring    ☐ small group instruction  
☒ classroom instruction

- 6.(a) If this project involved tutoring, was the learning progress of the adult literacy students quantitatively measured?    ☒ yes    ☐ no

(If "yes", identify any tests, questionnaires, or standard methods used and summarize student results.)

Students are given the READ test from Literacy Volunteers of America upon entering the program. Progress is determined by a combination of formal post-testing and progress reports from tutors. Of the students post-tested, using the READ test, the majority (68%) advanced at least 1 level. Approximately half of those advanced two levels.

Progress in the Basic Skills Classes is assessed through periodic testing and achievement of specific goals. Over two thirds of the students have moved on from the very basic levels offered by this class on to other classes offered through the Irvington Adult School or Essex County College.

- 6.(b) If this project involved tutoring, were qualitative outcomes of student progress documented?    ☒ yes    ☐ no

(If "yes", briefly describe how progress was determined and summarize student results. You may attach samples of any documents used to record observations or demonstrate outcomes.)

Students are periodically interviewed either by tutors or literacy staff. Progress is determined by students' perception that they are better able to manage their affairs, fill out applications, get jobs, etc. Students are encouraged to list specific examples of recent achievements. (examples of interviews and reading checklist is attached following the narrative portion of the report.)

7. During the course of this project were any of the following items produced? If so, attach a copy to each copy of the report.

<input type="checkbox"/> bibliography	<input type="checkbox"/> resource directory
<input type="checkbox"/> curriculum guide	<input type="checkbox"/> evaluation report
<input type="checkbox"/> training manual	<input type="checkbox"/> survey
<input type="checkbox"/> public relations audiovisual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> newsletter(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> training audiovisual	<input type="checkbox"/> other (describe)
<input type="checkbox"/> recruitment brochure	_____
	_____

8. During the course of this project:

How many adult learners were served? (i.e., individuals who made use of the library's literacy project services in some way) 136+ (records not kept of referrals)  
Of those served, how many received direct tutoring service? 136  
How many hours of direct tutoring service did they receive? 2 - 5 hrs/week  
How many new volunteer tutors were trained? 32  
How many current volunteer tutors received additional training? 16  
How many volunteer tutors (total) were involved? 68  
How many non-tutor volunteers were recruited? 0  
How many service hours were provided by non-tutors? 0  
How many librarians were oriented to literacy methods, materials, and students? 0  
How many trainers of tutors were trained? 0

Part III: Narrative Report

Provide a narrative report that includes the following information:

1. A comparison of actual accomplishments to the goals and objectives set forth in the approved application. Describe any major changes or revisions in the program with respect to approved activities, staffing, and budgeting, including unspent funds. Explain why established goals and objectives were not met, if applicable.
2. Provide a comparison between proposed and actual expenditures by budget category, i.e., personnel, travel, materials, etc.
3. Provide, as appropriate, specific details as to the activities undertaken -- e.g., if library materials were acquired, describe the kinds of materials purchased; if a needs assessment was conducted, describe the results of the assessment; if training was provided, describe the training and include the dates and topics; if services were contracted out, describe the contractor's activities.
4. Describe the role the library has played in the accomplishment of the goals and objectives set forth in the approved grant, including whether the library was involved in the project's implementation or as a resource and site only.
5. Provide names of agencies and organizations recruited to volunteer their services for the literacy program or that were involved in the coordination and planning of the literacy program. Describe the nature of their role.

### PART III: Narrative Report

The Irvington Literacy Program (ILP), housed at the Irvington Public Library has been providing literacy services to adults in the community for 7 consecutive years. Irvington is a densely populated, culturally diverse but poor urban community. This is the only year-round basic education program in the community. A combination of volunteer and paid staff are utilized for one-on-one tutoring, basic skills classes, GED preparation sessions and a Family Literacy series.

What follows is a narrative account of the activities of the program, Projected and actual accomplishments, as well as revisions, can be seen in the charts that follow.

At the conclusion of the report is documentation of some of the activities as well as samples of publicity and local recognition.

#### Student Activities:

The Irvington Literacy Program is housed primarily in the main branch of the Public Library at Civic Square. Several tutors and students meet at the Balliet Branch, located at 16th Avenue and Grove Street, in the lowest income area of town while a few others make use of community rooms of local public housing buildings.

Like any urban literacy program, the ILP must meet the challenges of offering appropriate services to a large population. Participants may be native born and have completed 12 years of education yet cannot read at a functional level due to a learning impairment. Others may be foreign born, speaking English but not reading in any language, while still others are functioning at a higher level with clear, specific goals. To meet the



needs of this extremely diverse group the program includes a variety of learning opportunities and support services. In the approved application the following learning activities were included: Enroll and tutor at least 45 new students; involve at least 15 students in Basic Skills Classes; involve at least five parents in a Family Literacy program; encourage peer support through continuation of the Student Support Group.

In addition to these specifically named activities, the program must also have a means for recruiting and tracking students as well as acknowledging success. The program has remained committed to the idea that in order to be successful, it must be active and responsive to the perceived needs of the participants.

Well over 120 people contacted the program during the year in search of services. Ninety three became active in one or more component of the program. The others either didn't come in for their evaluations and interviews or were found to be too advanced for this program and were encouraged to enter other programs in the area.

Some students are referred to the program by friends, family, clergy or a service agency in town. Others hear about the program from the radio, TV or a literacy hotline. Each student is interviewed and evaluated upon entering the program. If the student is interested in working with a tutor, the evaluation consists of the LVA READ test. Those students interested in the Basic Skills classes are given the WRAT while those working towards the GED take the diagnostic tool corresponding to Contemporary Books GED materials.

The interview is an exchange where the student's interests and priorities are sought while program information and schedules are given.

At the time the grant proposal was written, the primary method of instruction was by volunteer tutors working with individual students.

Over time, the Basic Skills classes, which meet in two an a half hour sessions twice a week, have become more widely known. In addition to two paid teachers who are certified in the state of New Jersey, two retired teachers volunteer their time in the classes. During the past year 87 students (63 of them new) participated in the classes!

These classes have been successful for several reasons. Since they are learner-centered, each student can work at his/her own pace. Students with learning disabilities or neurological impairments, who are difficult to match with tutors due to their special needs and slow progress, have shown consistent progress in the supportive atmosphere of the classes. Newly enrolled participants who are waiting for a tutor can get started working towards their goals immediately. Many other students appreciate having additional opportunities to reinforce lessons taught by their tutors.

Student achievement in the classes is measured through a combination of test scores and student satisfaction. Due to the open nature of the classes, it is impossible to test every student regularly with a standardized test. Periodically, the teachers will review work done with a student to assess progress and set new goals. As students advance, they are encouraged to become involved with other learning programs in the area, particularly the Irvington Adult School run by the Irvington Board of Education.

The GED preparation sessions were started when a volunteer with lengthy experience working with the GED called to offer her services. Although GED is normally beyond the scope of a literacy program, we have found it to be useful. Many who signed up for the classes were not ready to be working on the GED level. The individuals work with pre-GED materials bought specifically for this class. Those who sign up and are

much closer to taking the exam may either stay with our classes on Monday and Saturday mornings or are encouraged to attend GED classes at the Irvington Adult School. Of the 15 students who attended the sessions, 2 have passed the GED, 3 have moved on to the Adult School program while most of the rest continue to work on their skills.

The Family Literacy sessions were run for eight weeks in the summer. Publicity for the series was distributed by the Irvington Board of Education in the elementary schools and then in the summer day camp programs as well as in the Irvington Herald and local service agencies. Although eighteen parents originally signed up for the series, attendance was sporadic with six parents attending six or more sessions. Parents said that they had a hard time fitting classes into their summer schedules and suggested that it be tried again during the school year. Some of the materials for the program have been incorporated into the Childrens' Room collection. The rest will be reused when the series is run again through a program jointly sponsored by the library and the Irvington General Hospital.

Although the program projected to be able to match 45 new students with tutors in the course of the year, only 32 were actually matched. Recruitment of new tutors into the program has been down in spite of increased advertising. The students not matched in our program are encouraged to attend the Basic Skills Classes and, whenever possible, referred to other programs with extra tutors.

The Student Support Group remains an active group within the program. They meet on a monthly basis throughout the year. This year they sponsored a spelling bee, went on trips to Liberty Science Center and a local amusement park and provided the refreshments for the annual meeting. Of special note, they decided to demonstrate their appreciation of the

tutors by purchasing a plaque and presenting it to the tutors at the annual meeting. It now hangs in the library near the literacy collection. This group is an important way to encourage learners to see themselves as part of an active community in which the members acknowledge and support one another.

#### Tutor Activities:

Volunteer tutors remain a vital part of this program. Most of the tutors work individually with students, meeting once or twice a week for an hour and a half. Tutors are recruited through the media, local organizations and churches. During the course of the year over eighty people called to inquire about becoming involved with the program. Many decided that they would not be able to commit the amount of time required or never attended a training. Thirty seven did complete the training, and of those, thirty two were matched with students. Three of those who decided to not take on an individual student are volunteering their time in the Basic Skills classes and the GED sessions. In the approved application, the program was projecting to recruit 45 new tutors. Even through the final number of active new tutors is slightly less, the number of students who are participating in the Basic Skills classes more than makes up for the difference.

Volunteer support remains a crucial component of the program. The program had planned to hold at least five tutor trainings, two inservice workshops and two general meetings. During the course of the year, six tutor trainings were held (one in each of the months of November, February, April, June, July and September). Additionally there were the two general meetings (December 7, 1992 and September 13, 1993).

Instead of having two inservice trainings, a tutor coffee hour was started. Initially, this was to be a monthly event where the tutors could

share their experiences and focus on a particular strategy, but was turned into a quarterly event at the request of the tutors. Additionally, a meeting for new tutors scheduled a month after they had been matched with students. This gave the new volunteers a chance to express any uncertainty they had about the lessons as well as share any success they experienced. A tutor inservice was scheduled for September 18, 1993, but had to be rescheduled due to the illness of the presenter.

#### Role of the Library:

The Irvington Literacy Program, since it is housed in a public library, serves very well as a resource center for the community and other literacy programs. The materials ordered for the program are not only workbooks and readers, but also resources for tutors, program administrators and community members. Three hundred and ten items were purchased, most of which may be taken out by anyone in the county or borrowed by another literacy program.

Keeping in mind that program participants are not the only people who will be looking for these materials, several strategies have been put in place. When appropriate, duplicate copies are purchased so that the title can be found at the branch library, in the general stacks or in the Children's Room as well as in the adult learning section. A bibliography, which was created two years ago, is currently being updated and will then be distributed to the public libraries and literacy programs in the area.

The library has been an integral part of the literacy program. Not only does it provide sites for tutoring and classes to meet, but it serves as a center of the network of services. Materials purchased become part of the library's holdings and can be checked out by anyone in the county. The library staff has been trained, are sensitive to the needs of adult learners and aware of what services are available. Since it is open 62

hours per week, there is almost always someone on hand to answer questions regarding literacy. The library keeps track of the use of the literacy materials and is able to suggest topics for future purchases that are based on patron requests.

Coordination with other agencies:

Since the program has been active in the community for 7 years, it is widely known. Literacy staff has met with staff from the Irvington Housing Authority to increase their awareness of the problems facing adults with limited literacy skills. Referrals have come from the Irvington Mental Health Association, the Office of Social Security, individual churches and the Irvington Board of Education. The Irvington Mental Health also has run workshops for program participants on Substance Abuse and AIDS awareness. The program cooperated with other area literacy service providers to promote a month long, county wide literacy campaign during October, and literacy staff has shared its expertise with newly formed literacy programs to plan their activities and choose their materials.

The program works hard to maintain its visibility in the community. Participants from any literacy program are welcome to our meetings, workshops and trainings. Notice of activities are sent to the media, NAACP, Town Hall, the Board of Education, Mental Health Association, Parent Teacher Associations and area churches as well as being posted in many local shops and the Post Office.

Summation:

The Irvington Literacy Program had an active and successful year. The Federal monies granted to the library have enable us to establish and continue the existence of the literacy program which in the past year has touched the lives of over 150 people directly. The presence of the

program in the library has increased the library's usefulness as a community resource and has encourage individuals who might otherwise never enter its doors, begin to use its services.

The program has grown and is now highly visible and widely regarded as an asset to the community. We have a firm foundation, an experienced staff, positive public relations and political backing, an extensive collection and appropriate equipment. During the coming year, the program will work more interactively with other community agencies, specifically the Irvington Adult School and Irvington General Hospital, to expand the services available to the community and to target specific population groups. However, Irvington is monetarily one of the poorest communities in New Jersey. Without Federal funding the program would not be able to offer the wide variety of high quality services so desperately needed by the community.

<u>Intended Activities</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Achieved</u>
1. <u>Participants</u>		
Students registered this year	45	93
Total Active 9/93		136
Tutors trained this year	45	32
Total Active 9/93		69
2. <u>Publicity</u>		
Press releases		24
Newspaper feature articles		2
Posters, bookmarks		many
Newletters		1
Presentation at other programs		3
Display in library		2 months

### 3. Support Systems

Tutoring	1.5 hrs/wk
Basic Skills classes	2 per week
GED classes	2 per week
Student Support Group	monthly
Tutor Trainings	6
Tutor meetings	6

### 4. Materials purchased

Books	307
Software	2
Video	1

### 5. Meetings

Annual Literacy meeting	1
Annual holiday meeting and seasonal party	1

### 6. Network:

Region III Special Population Committee	member - L. McConnell
N.J. Association for Lifelong Learning	member - H. Shader
Partnership Against Illiteracy	active cooperation
LVA of Newark	" "
LVA of Essex	" "
Project Read	" "
The Literacy Connection	active cooperation



7. Other local agencies offering services

Irvington Mental Health Association	active cooperation
Irvington Social Security Office	" "
Irvington Housing Authority	" "
Irvington Board of Education	" "
Irvington Town Council	" "
Irvington General Hospital	" "
Irvington Adult School	" "

8. Staffing

1 Administrative Director:	In-kind 3.5 hrs/week
1 Project Director	5.25 hours/week
1 Coordinator	5.5 hours/week
1 Assistant Coordinator	15 hours/week
2 Basic Skills Teachers	5 hrs/week for 46 weeks
1 Learning Disabilities Consultant	evaluated 2 students

9. A complete financial statement is attached. The major budget changes were as follows: Due to bad weather , eight Basic Skills Classes were cancelled during the year. These monies were used by the Director and the Assistant Coordinator to meet with community groups and local agencies to heighten the awareness about literacy. It was found that the call for a learning disabilities consultant decreased with the certified teachers working with the Basic Skills Class. The teachers were able to get acquainted with the students and make recommendations to their tutors. The purchase of letterhead was not needed. This money went to the purchase of additional books and library materials.

IRVINGTON LITERACY PROGRAM  
10/01/92 - 09/30/93

	BUDGET	AMOUNT SPENT
<b>SALARIES &amp; WAGES</b>		
Director	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 5,225.00
Coordinator	3,750.00	4,080.00
Asst. Coordinator	7,500.00	8,677.50
Adult Education Teacher	12,000.00	11,172.00
Learning Disabilities Consultant	1,080.00	120.00
	<u>\$ 29,530.00</u>	<u>\$ 29,274.50</u>
<b>SUPPLIES</b>		
LVA Tutor training materials	\$ 700.00	\$ 652.25
Technical processing supplies	50.00	60.00
Publicity supplies, paper, etc.	400.00	433.67
Literacy office supplies	100.00	95.79
	<u>\$ 1,250.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,241.71</u>
<b>LIBRARY MATERIALS</b>		
Books, newspapers & lib. mat.	\$ 500.00	\$ 919.63
Computer software	100.00	99.89
Family Literacy package	520.00	520.00
	<u>\$ 1,120.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,539.52</u>
<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>		
Printed letterhead/envelopes	\$ 200.00	\$ 0.00
Telephone cost	500.00	520.00
Postage	700.00	724.27
Speaker/in-service workshop	200.00	200.00
	<u>\$ 1,600.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,444.27</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 33,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 33,500.00</b>

## A Sampling of Student Interviews

Isabelle D.: Isabelle feels that she has learned a lot from this program. She can now read to her daughter the book Clifford which she could not do last year. She no longer needs help reading her mail and sorting her bills. Her daughter has also expressed pleasure in having her mother read to her. Now she would like to start studying for her drivers license and read faster without stumbling. Eventually, Isabelle would like to work in a nursing home or with young children. (Note - 2 months after this interview, Isabelle was hired as a classroom aide in a local daycare center.)

Marie E: Marie is originally from Guyana. She is a quiet, bright woman who works as a home health aide. She is studying to get her High School equivalency diploma. Her skills have improved in most areas although she needs frequent encouragement as she lacks confidence in her abilities. Next semester, Marie will be encouraged to take advantage of the GED preparation course offered by the Irvington Adult School.

Wesley : Wesley is a 44 year old man who came to the program unable to identify all of the letter shapes. He was referred to this program when he attempted to start the Pre-GED program at the Irvington Adult School. Attendance is at times irregular due to his work schedule, but he is now reading at the second grade level in the Action English Series. He wants to be able to read blueprints and write letters.

Client's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Interview Guide

How long have you been working with your tutor?

Do you and your tutor meet every week? (if no, why not?)

What are some of the things you have learned to do in your lessons?

_____ read newspapers	_____ read to children	_____ write letters
_____ get a job	_____ pay bills	_____ drivers license
_____ improve spelling	_____ help with homework	_____ read forms
_____ read bible	_____ understand maps	_____ use phone book
_____ other _____		

What else would you like to be able to learn?

Is there anything you don't like about the program/ suggestions for improvement?



# Irvington Literacy Program

IRVINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
CIVIC SQUARE  
IRVINGTON, NJ 07111  
(201) 372-6400

LITERACY SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 16, 1993

## BASIC SKILLS

Project Director  
Holly Shader  
Coordinator  
Faith Alford

- WILL START ON SEPTEMBER 7, 1993
- CLASSES WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 5:30-8:00 IN THE MEETING ROOM
- NO PRE-REGISTRATION NECESSARY
- THE STUDENT DOES NOT NEED TO ATTEND EVERY CLASS AND DOES NOT NEED TO STAY THE ENTIRE CLASS TIME
- CLASSES COVER BASIC MATH, ENGLISH, READING, WRITING, SPELLING, AND LIFE SKILLS

## G.E.D.

AT THIS TIME WE ARE UNSURE OF THE G.E.D. SCHEDULE

## TUTOR TRAINING

- DATES: SEPTEMBER 27, 28 & OCTOBER 4, 5
- ALL SESSIONS WILL BE HELD IN THE MEETING ROOM (UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED) FROM 6:00-9:00
- TUTORS MUST BE 18 AND OLDER
- 1 TRAINING = 4 SESSIONS
- POTENTIAL TUTOR MUST ATTEND ALL 4 SESSIONS
- NO PRE-REGISTRATION NECESSARY

## STUDENT SUPPORT MEETINGS

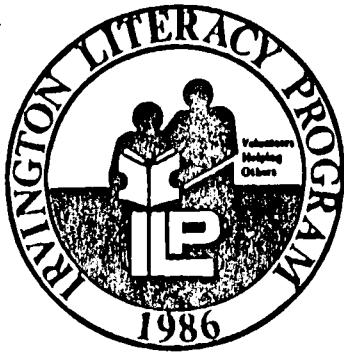
HELD ON THE LAST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH (STARTING OCT.) FROM 5:00-7:00

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- PARTICIPANTS OF THE ABOVE ACTIVITIES DO NOT NEED TO BE RESIDENTS OF IRVINGTON
- TUTOR TRAININGS ARE USUALLY HELD EVERY OTHER MONTH
- BASIC SKILLS TEACHERS: ADAM DZIEMIAN & SUE KENDALL

## ★ FOR MORE INFO CONTACT ★

HOLLY SHADER - DIRECTOR  
FAITH ALFORD - COORDINATOR  
RENEE WILLIAMS - ASSISTANT COORDINATOR



# Irvington Literacy Program

IRVINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
CIVIC SQUARE  
IRVINGTON, NJ 07111  
(201) 372-6400

If you are planning for a year,  
plant rice.  
If you are planning for a decade,  
plant a tree.  
If you are planning for a lifetime,  
educate a person.  
- Chinese Proverb.

**Coordinators**  
Faith Alford  
Audrey Incitti

## FACTS ABOUT THE IRVINGTON LITERACY PROGRAM

The Irvington Literacy Program has been in operation at the Irvington Public Library since October 1986 with funds from the Federal Government. Since its beginning, the program has always strived to meet the needs of the residents of Irvington in as many ways as possible. To that end, the program now includes:

- \* Book collection of over 1,000 books covering educational, entertainment, and practical topics;

- \* Read along books which demonstrate fluent reading skills to new readers;

- \* Two computers and software which are available to learners and tutors;

- \* Student Support Group established to strengthen the learners' affiliation with one another and give support to tentative learners;

- \* Basic Skills Class started in acknowledgement that the opportunities for formal learning are linked to reading. A nonreader will have many gaps in his formal knowledge.

The Literacy Program maintains positive relationships with other agencies in the community. A number of teachers from the Irvington schools also volunteer their time as tutors; we have served as a model for other programs, and our materials are available for use by any community member with a library card.

The Irvington Literacy Program continues to listen to the community and remain sensitive to its needs. We are currently working to expand our focus to include Family Literacy, in response to talks with parents and their children.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

FUNDED BY TITLE VI



Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003 (201) 748-9000

May 18, 1993

Fred W. Netzer  
322 Midland Ave.  
Saddle Brook, NJ 07662

Dear Fred,

Congratulations, I am pleased to inform you that you have been accepted for admission to Bloomfield College for Fall Semester 1993.

To proceed with your registration for the Fall Semester, please call the Learning Support Center to schedule an appointment for placement testing, academic advising and course selection.

You can reach the Learning Support Center at (201) 748-9000, Ext. 256, Monday through Thursday, 5:15 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. The placement examination is given at 6:00 P.M. Monday through Thursday.

If you have any questions concerning your eligibility for financial assistance, please call the Office of Financial Aid at (201) 748-9000, Ext. 212. All other inquiries may be directed to the Office of Admissions at extension 230.

We look forward to welcoming you to Bloomfield College, knowing that your attendance will be a challenging and rewarding experience.

With best wishes and congratulations.

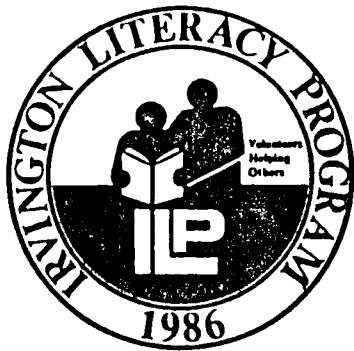
Sincerely,

Andrew G. Nelson  
Dean for Admissions

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*Fred attended GED classes*

*How's this  
for an answer?  
Jim Neely Headmaster*



# Irvington Literacy Program

IRVINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

CIVIC SQUARE

IRVINGTON, NJ 07111

(201) 372-6400

**Project Director**

Holly Shader

**Coordinator**

Faith Alford

Dear Volunteer:

The Irvington Literacy Program welcomes you to join us as a volunteer tutor!

We have people waiting for you, waiting for you to start teaching reading and writing. They are parents, wives and husbands. They want to find jobs, accept promotions on their present jobs, read to their children and grandchildren -- do everything reading accomplishes for you and me.

A tutor training workshop will be held at the Irvington Public Library on the following dates:

**JULY 20, 23, 28, AND 30**

All sessions will be held from 6:00 PM-9:00 PM. Please be on time. Fill out the form below and return it to the Irvington Literacy Program, c/o Irvington Public Library. (The full address is printed on the stationary).

If this training schedule is not convenient for you, please let us know - we will add you to the list for our next workshop. Perhaps you might also pass this form along to a friend who can sign up for this date - or post it at work, church, the beauty parlor or the supermarket, so others can volunteer.

Please feel free to call us if you have any questions.  
Please speak to Faith Alford or Renee Williams at 372-6400.

## TUTOR TRAINING WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

----- YES! I will attend the tutor training workshop

NAME: -----

PHONE: -----

I AM AVAILABLE TO TUTOR ON THESE DAYS -----





# Irvington Literacy Program

IRVINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
CIVIC SQUARE  
IRVINGTON, NJ 07111  
(201) 372-6400

## ANNOUNCING

THE START OF SOMETHING VERY EXCITING!!

### A TUTOR COFFEE HOUR

Project Director  
Holly Shader  
Coordinator  
Faith Alford

It's an opportunity to share. it's a chance to get new ideas, to rejuvenate, to talk, listen and laugh. It's a place to prove that you are not alone in tutoring. It's a chance to meet others who share your interests, challenges and successes.

Mary Ellen Martko, long time teacher, teacher trainer and tutor with the Irvington Literacy Program, has been an enthusiastic spokesperson and recruiter of tutors. She has been tutoring with our program for over two years and has often commented that tutors need support, and the opportunity to gather together to share experiences and learn from one another. After all, the students have a support group that meets the last Monday of the month, so why not the tutors? What can we say; she's right. She even offered to get it started! Sooo...

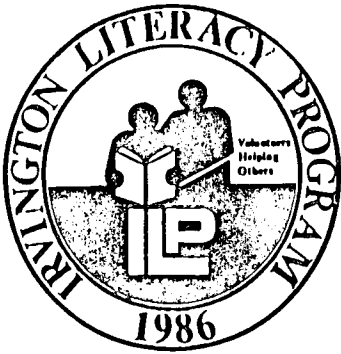
WHO: Tutors  
WHERE: Irvington Public Library  
(upstairs conference room)  
WHEN: Monday, October 26th  
6:00 - 7:00 pm  
WHAT: Tutor Coffee Hour

Mark it on your calendar! Starting this month, the Tutor Coffee Hour will meet the last Monday of each month. The tutors will meet for an hour to talk, share and learn something new, and then join with the students from the Student Support Group for coffee and refreshments.

You, as a tutor, are a very important, vital part of this program. We are very excited about being able to offer this time to you, to support and recognise you and your work.

**BEST COPY AVAILABLE**

HOPE TO SEE YOU ON THE 26th!!!



# Irvington Literacy Program

IRVINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
CIVIC SQUARE  
IRVINGTON, NJ 07111  
(201) 372-6400

**Project Director**  
Holly Shader  
**Coordinator**  
Faith Alford

May 20, 1993

Dear Tutor,

On Tuesday, June 1, 1993 at 6:30 p.m., there will be a follow-up meeting in connection with your recent tutor training.

There will be time for sharing and time to discuss challenges and solutions in tutoring. We will also be talking about ways to keep the lessons interesting for both you and your student.

We look forward to seeing you at that time.

Sincerely,

Renee Williams  
Assistant Coordinator

P.S. If you cannot make it to this meeting, please give me a call and let me know how you are progressing with your student.

**BEST COPY AVAILABLE**



IRVINGTON LITERACY PROGRAM  
TUTOR FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE # DAY \_\_\_\_\_ EVENING \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU CURRENTLY TUTORING? \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF STUDENT ASSIGNED TO \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

WHERE DO YOU MEET FOR TUTORING SESSIONS? \_\_\_\_\_

HOW OFTEN DO YOU MEET? \_\_\_\_\_

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU MET? \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU USING MATERIALS IN THE LIBRARY? \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT KIND OF MATERIALS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE AVAILABLE IN  
THE LIBRARY? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU NEED A NEW OR ADDITIONAL STUDENT? \_\_\_\_\_

IF YOU ARE NOT CURRENTLY TUTORING WOULD YOU LIKE TO START  
AGAIN? \_\_\_\_\_

WOULD YOU LIKE US TO GIVE YOU A CALL? \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT IS THE BEST TIME TO CALL? \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAIL TO: IRVINGTON LITERACY PROGRAM  
IRVINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
CIVIC SQUARE  
IRVINGTON, NJ 07111

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL  
(201)372-6400

THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT!!!!

Liberty

## community bulletin board

### Readers' response

Last week in our readers' poll, we asked if elected officials in town were responsive to complaints and/or problems. Irvington resident Sylvia Morris Shapiro responded and let us know that South Ward Councilman D. Bilal Beasley provided valuable assistance several weeks ago when she sought approval for a handicapped parking space in front of her home. Shapiro said Beasley helped guide her through the process, which entailed completing forms at the Police Department and having the matter brought before the Township Council for consideration.

"In my case, I'd have to say that yes, township officials are responsive when a resident needs assistance. I'd like to publicly thank Councilman Beasley for all his help," Shapiro said.

Got an opinion to share? Mail your comments to the *Irvington Herald*, P.O. Box 158, 463 Valley St., Maplewood, NJ, 07040, or call us at 763-0700.

### Town meetings

#### Monday

The regular meeting of the Rent Levelling Board takes place at 7:30 p.m. in Room 113 of the Municipal Building, Civic Square.

#### July 22

The Board of Education conducts a public meeting at 10 a.m. in the administration building, 1150 Springfield Ave., for the purpose of opening bids for the following: office supplies, duplicating supplies and science supplies and equipment. No other business will be conducted.

Due to a lack of pending applications, the regular meeting of the Planning Board has been cancelled for tonight.

#### July 28

The regular meeting of the Board of Education takes place at 7:30 p.m. in Room 123 of Irvington High School, 1253 Clinton Ave.

### Events

□ The Irvington South Ward Block Association Family Picnic takes place Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. at the Tiny Tots Playground, next to Union Avenue School. The rain date is Sunday. All South Ward Block Association members are invited. Mayor Michael Steele and South Ward Councilman D. Bilal Beasley have been invited to attend. For further information, contact Max Brownstein, 374-5568; Lenel Jackson, 375-8901; Lebby Jones, 371-6954; or Tyrone Lucius, 372-5740.

□ The United Nations People's Festival, originally scheduled for Aug. 14, will be held on Aug. 7.

The cultural celebration, which stresses unity through the celebration of ethnic diversity in the township, takes place from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Civic Square.

The event is co-sponsored by the United Nations Committee, the Alliance Committee, the Board of Education, the Township Council and the Mayor's Office.

For further information, contact Wayne Smith at 399-6724 or Elliot Isibor at 242-1119.

### At the library

A Family Literacy Program is taking place at the Irvington Public Library this summer.

The program, which is open to anyone interested in reading to children under the age of six, will be held Mondays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 8 p.m. until Aug. 31.

The program, which includes storytelling, picture books, creative reading, songs and poetry, writing stories and play acting, is designed to encourage adults, regardless of their reading abilities, to feel more

comfortable reading to children.

Irvington school teachers Adam Dziemian and Terry Jefferson will serve as coordinators.

For further information, call the Irvington Literacy Program at 372-6400.

### Food drive

Non-perishable food items are being collected for the food pantry at Christian Love Church, 830 Lyons Ave. Food may be dropped off at the Irvington Neighborhood Improvement Corp., 1113 Springfield Ave. The food drive continues until July 24.

### Health Department

Residents are reminded that the Irvington Health Department offers the following free services:

- **Baby Clinic:** takes place every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and includes physical examinations and vaccinations from birth to school age. Call 399-6652.

- **Lead Poison Program:** lead poisoning test for children. A study by the National Bureau of Standards estimated that 600,000 children may have high levels of lead in their blood. Children from ages 1 to 5 are at high risk for developing lead poisoning, which can result in damage to the brain and nervous system. The program includes counseling for parents of children with lead poisoning, nutrition advice and referrals. Call 399-6653.

- **Women's Health Clinic:** open to all female residents of Irvington ages 18 and over, the program includes a Pap test, pelvic exams, breast exams and instructions for self-breast examinations. Call 399-6758.

### We want your news

To announce local events, please post dates, times and places as early as possible and send to P.O. Box 158, 463 Valley St., Maplewood, NJ 07040.

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# LITERACY

## IN THE NEWS

*A Publication of the National Institute for Literacy*

October 1992

Literacy News

9

## Institute Official Speaks at Family Literacy Workshop

Victor Westbrook, the Institute's Special Advisor for Grants and Contracts and Acting Chief of Staff, recently spoke at a workshop on family literacy at the Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. The workshop was part of a legislative weekend sponsored by the Congressional Black Caucus.

Mr. Westbrook's remarks were part of a workshop on family literacy that was held at the event. The workshop was convened by Rep. Donald Payne, D-NJ.

Mr. Westbrook pointed out that the Institute's mandate directly addresses the issue of family literacy. For example, the Institute is authorized to conduct basic research and demonstrations not only on how adults learn to read and write, but also on how parents' literacy skills affect the ability of their children to acquire such skills.

Other speakers at the workshop included Curtis Aikens, "Home" Grocer on television's *The Home Show*; Dr. Vivian Gadsden, Associate Director of the University of Pennsylvania's National Center on Adult Literacy; Anderson Clark, President of READAMERICA; Clyde Aveille, Director of Federal Relations for the City University of New York; Delores Bramer, Director of the SELF HELP Family Literacy Project; and Holly Shader, Director of the Irvington Literacy Program of the Irvington, New Jersey, Public Library. ♦

## To Our Readers

*continued from page 1*

happy to report that the Senate approved all the nominees unanimously prior to adjourning.

The announcement of the Institute's grants was well received by national and local news media. This interest will go a long way toward creating the awareness the Institute needs to ensure that Americans know of the literacy deficit our country faces, and of what's being done to reach the goal of literacy for all Americans by the year 2000.

With the Board in place and new projects funded, the Institute begins a new, exciting phase. The Board's first meeting is set for November 19 in Washington, when members will start determining future priorities and planning future activities. Look for updates in future issues of *Literacy News*. ♦

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CONTACT PERSON: RENEE WILLIAMS  
372-6400

OCTOBER 20, 1992

Mark Faris  
Irvington Herald  
463 Valley Street  
Maplewood, NJ 07040

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE IRVINGTON LITERACY PROGRAM IS INTRODUCING BASIC SKILLS  
AND G.E.D. CLASSES.

BASIC SKILLS FOR READING AND ENGLISH ARE HELD ON TUESDAYS  
AND THURSDAYS FROM 5:30-8:00 PM. AND BASIC SKILLS FOR MATH  
ARE HELD ON SATURDAYS FROM 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

G.E.D. CLASSES ARE HELD ON MONDAYS FROM 10 - 11:30 AM. ALL  
CLASSES ARE CONDUCTED AT THE IRVINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, MAIN  
BRANCH. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL RENEE WILLIAMS AT  
372-6400.

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STUDENTS SUPPORT GROUP

N O T I C E

TO ALL STUDENTS:

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY October 21<sup>st</sup> AT THE IRVINGTON  
PUBLIC LIBRARY, 6:00 TO 7:00 PM. PLEASE ATTEND.

ANGELO GIANISIS, PRESIDENT

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Columbia Avenue, Isabella Avenue and West Grove Terrace, but the Lewis was able to elude capture. While checking the area of Isabella Avenue, an officer found a jacket and sweat shirt matching those worn by the suspect. In the area of Columbia Avenue, police found a backpack matching the one worn by Lewis.

## ects its 1992 officers

speak to the association when it was first organized.

Janet Bruders, former president of the Irvington Tenants Organization for many years, said that the group wants officials to clean up local businesses in the area of Lyons and Union avenues.

"There have been too many rip-offs and thefts in this area," she said.

Swick said the increase in crime is the reason why it is difficult to get some people to attend meetings at night, even in the early evening. To get to the association's meetings, she said tenants have been walking to the gatherings in groups.

Damiano will make another appearance at the group's next meeting, which will take place next month.

## e carjacking

kept completely confidential. If the information leads to an arrest, a reward of up to \$1,000 is available.

Fonloura urges anyone with information on the crime to contact Crimestoppers by dialing S-H-E-R-I-F-F, 24 hours a day, or to contact Lt. Richard Padalino of the South Orange Police Department at 378-7799.

Crimestoppers is a non-profit corporation sponsored by the Essex County Sheriff's Office and is overseen by a voluntary board of directors consisting of area businesses and civic leaders.

"These efforts help make our communities more sensitive to the challenges facing our patients, and also help our patients interact with the county residents whom they come to call their friends," the county executive said.

D'Alessio commended Michael Duffy, director of the county Department of Health and Rehabilitation; Teresa Bielawski, the hospital center's acting medical director; and Rosemary Pelkey, Volunteer Services director, for working cooperatively on the volunteer services.

The program will begin Friday at 6 p.m.

## Clay calls for additional county police patrols

Freeholder Vice President Arthur Clay today called on the D'Alessio administration to increase police patrols in Essex County parks. Clay's comments came in response to recent news that a dead body was found in Branch Brook Park.

"Crime in our parks is out of control," Clay said. "We have seen a dra-

## Literacy program has basic skills classes

□ The Irvington Public Library's Irvington Literacy Program is introducing basic skills and General Education Diploma, or GED, classes.

The basic skills classes will focus on grammar, reading, spelling, life skills, and mathematics. Adult students will work individually, as well as in small groups, on the subjects and materials in which they are interested.

The classes are being offered from 5:30-8 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. GED classes will be held on Mondays from 10-11:30 p.m.

All classes are conducted at the Irvington Public Library, Civic Square.

□ The literacy program is also conducting training sessions for volunteer tutors at the library on Nov. 10, 12, 17, and 19 from 6-9 p.m.

After completing the training session, tutors will be matched with adult learners who wish to improve their reading skills.

Anyone interested in obtaining additional information, may call Renee Williams at 372-6400.

## Community Events

This community calendar is prepared each week by the *Irvington Herald* and the *Vailsburg Leader*. To avoid conflicts in scheduling local events, please post dates, times and places as early as possible and send to P.O. Box 158, Maplewood, NJ, 07040.

### Today

□ The Berkeley Terrace Tenants Organization will meet at 7 p.m. in the All-purpose Room of Berkeley Terrace School, 803 Grove St.

□ The Division of Health Administration is offering an Influenza Immunization Program, which is funded by the Essex County Division on Aging, for Irvington senior citizens only. The program will take place from 9-11:30 a.m. in the Community Room of 624 Nye Ave.

□ Every Thursday, the Division of Health Administration conducts free physicals and immunizations for children who are newborn to 5-years-old. The Child Health Conference will take place in the ambulatory care wing of Irvington General Hospital, 832 Chancellor Ave. Only Irvington residents are eligible. Anyone interested in making an appointment, may call 399-6652.

### Friday

□ The Irvington Public Library, Civic Square, is sponsoring an after-school Halloween Film Festival from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for Irvington residents only. Anyone interested in obtaining additional information, may call 372-6400.

□ The Department of Parks and Recreation will hold a Halloween Parade and Costume Contest in the municipal building, Civic Square. Registration for the event will take place at 6 p.m., with the parade and contest taking place immediately thereafter. Anyone interested in obtaining additional information, may call the Department of Parks and Recreation at 399-6597.

### Saturday

□ The Division of Health Administration is offering an Influenza Immunization Program, which is funded by the Essex County Division on Aging, for Irvington senior citizens only. The program will take place from 9-11:30 a.m. at the health division office in the municipal building, Civic Square. Residents are asked to enter through the rear of the building.

### Monday

□ Every Monday from 2-4:30 p.m. the Bridge Inc., 589 Grove St., will offer free and confidential AIDS testing and counseling. Anyone interested in making an appointment, may call 266-5454.

### Tuesday

□ Every Tuesday through Nov. 17, the Irvington Public Library is sponsoring a Preschool Story Time program from 10-10:30 a.m. at the library, Civic Square, for 3- to 5-year-old Irvington residents. Anyone interested in obtaining additional information, or in registering for the program, may call 372-0077.

□ Every Tuesday, the Irvington Literacy Program of the Irvington Public Library, Civic Square, holds basic skills classes from 5:30-8 p.m. The classes will focus on grammar, reading, spelling, life skills, and mathematics. Anyone interested in obtaining additional information, may call the literacy program at 372-6400.

□ Every Tuesday, the Division of Health Administration conducts free physicals and immunizations for children who are newborn to 5-years-old. The Child Health Conference will take place in the ambulatory care wing of Irvington General Hospital, 832 Chancellor Ave. Only Irvington residents are eligible. Anyone interested in making an appointment, may call 399-6652.

□ Every Tuesday, the Division of Health Administration offers free treatment of sexually transmitted diseases at its STD Clinic, with confidentiality guaranteed. The STD Clinic takes place at 5 p.m. at Irvington General Hospital, 832 Chancellor Ave. Anyone interested in making an appointment, may call 399-6021.

### Coming Events

Nov. 3

□ The regular monthly meeting of the 624 Nye Ave. Tenants Organi-

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THE IRVINGTON LIBRARY

IS INTRODUCING  
**ADULT  
BASIC SKILLS  
CLASSES**

**IN:**

- \* MATH \* ENGLISH
- \* SPELLING \* WRITING
- \* READING \* ENGLISH
- \* DRIVERS TEST \* BUDGETING
- \* VOCABULARY \* TEST TAKING
- \* FILLING OUT FORMS

**FOR MORE INFO  
OR TO REGISTER**

**PLEASE CALL 372-6400**

# Reading with Children at the Irvington Library

Monday and Thursday Evenings

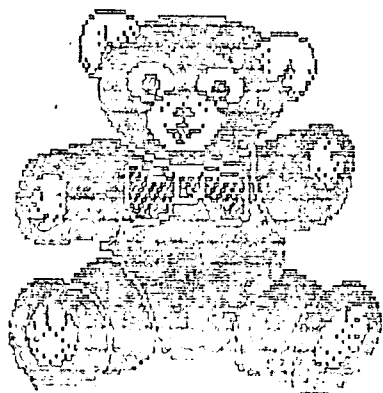
5:30 - 8:00 pm

Downstairs Meeting Room

For more information contact:

The Irvington Literacy Program

372-6400



All children must be  
accompanied by an adult.

**IRVINGTON LIBRARY  
FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM**

**15 Sessions - 2 1/2 Hours Per Session  
5:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

**SESSION I INTRODUCTION**

- A. Goals & Objectives
  - 1. Responsibilities of Facilitator
  - 2. Responsibility of Adult Learner
  - 3. Keep Dialogue Journal - (Standard)
  - 4. Learn 7 words a week (Standard)
- B. Hand Outs
  - 1. Hand out member cards and supplies
- C. Storytelling (1 hour)
  - 1. Traditional Fairytales
  - 2. Contemporary Literature

**SESSION II.**

- A. Picture Book Exercise
  - 1. Children draw pictures, together with parent write a story. (1 hour)
  - 2. If no children, adults may cut out
- B. Dialogue Journal
- C. Storytelling (1 hour)
  - 1. Adults Read aloud with assistance from children  
2 selections

**Session III**

- A. Creative Reading (1 hr.)
  - 1. How to decipher difficult words
- B. Dialogue Journal
- C. Storytelling (1)

**Session IV.**

- A. Songs and Poetry
  - Adult learners and children read and sing a long making word association  
(1 hr)
- B. Dialogue Journal
- C. Storytelling (1 hr)

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Session V

- A. Whole session dedicated to a play
- B. Dialogue Journal

Session VI.

- A. Creative Reading ( 1 hr)
  - 1. How to decipher difficult words
- B. Dialogue Journal
- C. Storytelling (1 hr)

Session VII

- A. Choose Topics for Newsletter (2 Sessions)
- B. Storytelling

Session VIII

- A. Continue with Newsletter
- B. Dialogue Journal

Session IX

- A. Finish Newsletter

SESSION X-XV Repeat I - IX

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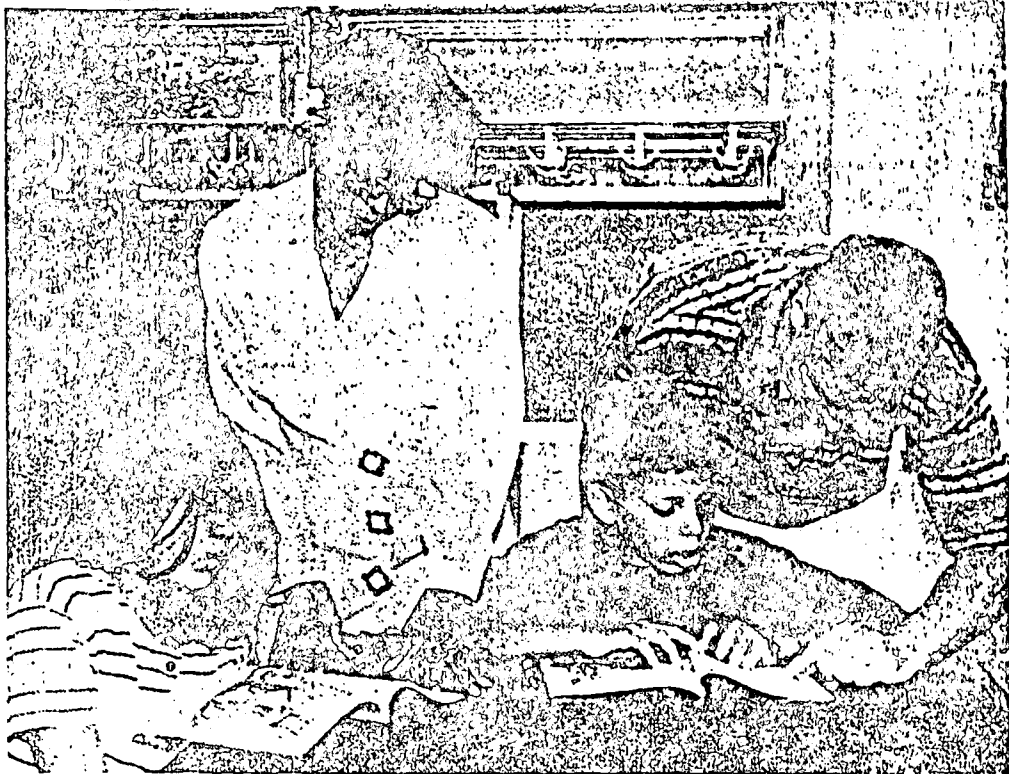


Photo By Barbara Kakkalis

Participating in a recent 'Reading With Small Children' program at the Irvington Public Library are, from left, fifth-grader Kay Siopongco, Terri Jefferson, fourth-grader Christopher Rodriguez and Adam Dziemian.

## Reading program continues

By Natolla Branche  
Correspondent

Holly Shader, the former director of the Essex County Adult Literacy Program who once spent time teaching in southern Africa, now serves as the director of the "Reading With Small Children" program.

The program, held every Monday and Thursday evenings until the end of August at the Irvington Public Library, is designed to help both parent and child interact through reading.

Shader said by doing this, the parent helps the child gain more information through the "written word."

According to Shader, the primary focus of the program is not on the child, but on the adult. When a child sees a parent succeed, they, too, have a tendency to succeed. A child's reaction to seeing a parent learn to read has a very positive effect on the family. The parent or guardian don't

ability, but the importance of the program is to "promote parent and children reading," Shader said.

The "Reading With Small Children" project is federally funded by the ISCA Title Six Grant. This allows for parent and child to take part in the program, even if they are not a resident of Irvington, Shader explained.

The teachers of this project are chosen for their ability to be compassionate as well as their awareness of the Irvington community. Both Adam Dziemian and Teri Jefferson, who are employed at Irvington public schools, were selected to facilitate the "Reading With Small Children" program.

As teachers, they provide creative activities such as reading the comics, coloring pictures, and allowing the children to write their own stories. During the course of these activities, a "Goody Bank" full of all sorts of snacks are given to the children.

In this sense, the teachers make

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# Literacy program begins its seventh year

The Irvington Literacy Program, which is housed at the Irvington Public Library, is moving into its seventh year of operation. Funded from a grant from the New Jersey State Library, the program has been able to serve the community in a variety of ways.

"Our focus has always been on the people of Irvington," Holly Shader, director of the program, said. "Irvington has a large population of adults who do not have the literacy skills they need to be able to live comfortable and productive lives."

The library director said the Irvington Literacy Program strives to create an atmosphere that invites people from a variety of backgrounds to participate. Upon entering the program, adult learners are first evaluated to determine their starting point.

"People come in on a lot of different levels," she said. "Each of them need to find something that is useful to them or they will leave. The initial testing is only to find out where to begin with that individual."

Once evaluated, the learners are matched with trained volunteer tutors. Shader said. The tutors, who have participated in a 12-hour training, are also drawn from the community.

Irvington Public Library Director Lori McConnell said the literacy program is a true community-driven program.

"If it weren't for the involvement of the people of Irvington, there will be no program," McConnell said. "It was the people of Irvington who first told us there was a need, and it is the people of Irvington who keep it going."

In the last year, 39 new tutors, mostly Irvington residents, were trained and matched with students. Ann Eustace, the newest reference librarian said that "it's a real high" to be able to help someone inquiring about reading.

"The program is right here, we can help them immediately," Eustace said.

According to Shader, last year was an amazing year. The literacy program received "tremendous community support and we made terrific use of it." The Board of Education provided funds to the program to hire a team of 5 teachers for an expanded Basic Skills Program, and to purchase more materials.

"We were able to reach more than 75 new people through that pilot program, and we are continuing it this fall," she said. "Through the pilot

program, the need was demonstrated."

Mary Ellen Marko, staff developer with the Board of Education, and Susan Dempsey, member of a township Child Study Team, have been hired to provide ongoing classes for members of the program who are interested in furthering their studies.

In addition to working closely with members of the Irvington community, staff and members of the literacy program traveled to spread the message. Angelo Gianlisis, president of the student support group, spoke at the annual New Jersey Literacy Volunteers of America conference to tell others what his learning has meant to him, as well as to share ideas on how programs can start their own support group for learners.

Faith Alford, program coordinator, and a tutor trainer since the program started in 1986, spoke at the Joint Parent-Teachers Association's Community Day, which was held recently at Irvington High School. Shader was part of a panel of literacy advocates and providers at the Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Weekend in Washington D.C. in September.

"The Irvington Literacy Program is a dynamic, necessary program for the

community," Shader said. "During the past year, there were classes, workshops, in-service trainings, and field trips, in addition to tutor training and new students."

The literacy program attempts to address the needs and interests of the participants, encouraging them to learn more and do more, she said. Program workshops ranged from job hunting and resume writing to learning about AIDS and alcoholism.

"The students are proud to their involvement and proud of their accomplishments," she said. "They had the opportunity to say so during a visit from Congressman Donald Payne, as well as through a month-long display of their work in the entrance to the library."

The program is funded by a federal LSCA Title VI Grant that runs through Sept. 93. During the upcoming year, a monthly tutor coffee hour will be added to give tutors from any area literacy program the opportunity to meet, share experiences and develop new skills.

Anyone interested in obtaining additional information, or in becoming a part of the Irvington Literacy Program, may call 372-6400.

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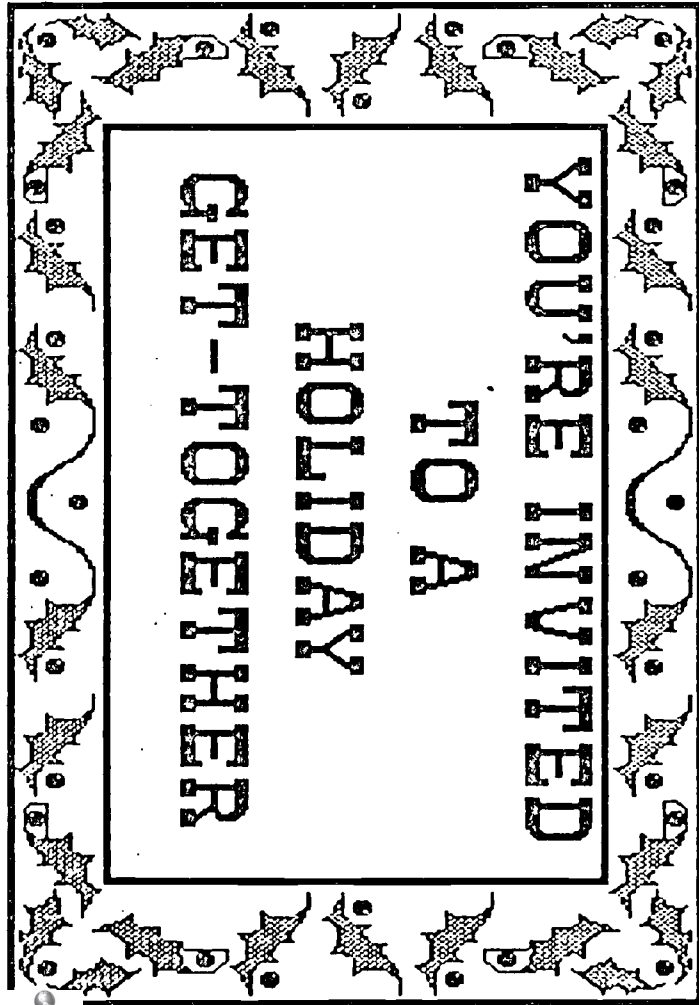
REPORT

WILL BE

ON MONDAY, MARCH 30th

9:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

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IF YOU CAN BAKE OR DONATE A DISH FOR THIS OCCASSION,  
PLEASE CALL FAITH OR HOLLY ON 372-6400 NO LATER THAN  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1991.

ALSO, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN \$5.00 MINIMUM GRAB BAG,  
PLEASE BRING IT WITH YOU ON DECEMBER 9th, A LADIES'  
GIFT IF YOU ARE A FEMALE OR A MAN'S GIFT IF YOU ARE A  
MALE. NUMBERS FOR THE GRAB BAG WILL BE DRAWN ON THAT  
DAY.

**When:**

M.O.N.D.A.Y., December 7, 1992

**Where:**

IRVINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
MEETING ROOM

**Time:**

6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

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JOIN US FOR A TOUCH DOWN !!

HELEN KURYLO  
ENGLISH PROFESSOR,  
UPSALA COLLEGE

SPEAKER:

PLACE: IRVINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
CIVIC SQUARE  
IRVINGTON, NEW JERSEY  
( MEETING ROOM )

TIME: 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

DATE: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1993

IRVINGTON LITERACY PROGRAM  
ANNUAL "KICK-OFF" MEETING



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## ✓ Literacy campaign in need of tutors; agency is game for playtime helpers

By MICHELE HOWE

✓ The Irvington Literacy Program will conduct a training series for prospective tutors at the Irvington Public Library on June 14, 15, 21 and 22, from 6-9 p.m. Following training, tutors will be matched with adult learners who wish to improve their reading. Contact: Renee Williams, Irvington Public Library, Civic Square, Irvington 07111.

✓ New Jersey Gives, a project of the Community Foundation of New Jersey, provides a Helpline for people interested in volunteering. If you would like to give of your time but don't know where to go or whom to get in touch with, call 1-800-NJG-5580 and you will be referred to locations in your own area where people are needed most.

✓ Be a volunteer; the choices are endless. Finding an opportunity is as easy as picking up the telephone. Contact Joan Fisch or Kymberly Billups at the Volunteer Center of Greater Essex County, 439 Main St., Orange 07050.

A national health agency is seeking volunteers to assist in its fund-raising event on June 19 at Giants Stadium. Individuals are being sought to assist in the processional, leading teams from event to event, snack table, lunch and clean-up.

Urban agency which assists children with AIDS is seeking volunteers to help children playing games, arts and crafts. Flexible hours.

An agency is looking for someone to become a companion to a male nursing home resident. Individual should have patience and capability to work with the elderly. Also seeking a volunteer to assist in public relations work.

Montclair-based literacy agency is seeking individuals to tutor children during the summer months. Volunteers will help the youngsters prepare for the September school year. Flexible hours are available.

SingleShares, a group of community minded individuals who want to volunteer while meeting others like themselves, will meet June 15, 7:30 p.m. in the United Way Building's Memorial Room, 60 S. Fullerton Ave., Montclair.

Helping Hands is a weekly column designed for non-profit groups in need of volunteers. Agencies and organizations should direct press releases to Helping Hands, The Star-Ledger, 1 Star-Ledger Plaza, Newark 07102-1200.

one to two days in the Newark area.

✓ Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Morris County will hold orientation sessions for prospective volunteers on today and June 28, at 7 p.m. The agency is located at 84 Maple Ave., Morristown 07960.

✓ You could help improve the quality of life for someone less fortunate than you by helping those who suffer from depression, anxiety disorders or other mental illnesses. For two or three hours a week you could become a community companion volunteer and make a difference in someone's life. Contact Mae Mix, Mental Health Association of Hudson Co., 104 Newark Ave., Jersey City 07302.

✓ Seniors Meals has issued an urgent appeal for volunteer drivers to deliver hot noontime meals to elderly and disabled residents of the Eatontown area, Mondays-Fridays. Contact: Beverly Parsons, Volunteers in Public Service, Monmouth County Division of Social Services, P.O. Box 3000, Freehold 07728.

✓ The Sussex County Association for Retarded Citizens (SCARC) is seeking volunteers to occasionally help with special projects and at special events. Individuals are needed to assist at the agency office and at the various agency programs and special events located throughout Sussex County. SCARC is located at 11 Route 206, Suite 100, Augusta 07822.

✓ Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association, located on Titus Mill Road, Hopewell Township will be expanding the Buttinger Education Center later this year. Volunteers are

woodwork and computer programming.

✓ The Sierra Club, North Jersey Group is looking for a highly sociable person who can bring new members into the organization. Training is available, and expenses for postage and telephone costs are reimbursed. Contact Charissa Murray, director, Volunteer Action Center of Passaic County, 2 Market St., 4th Floor, Paterson 07501.

✓ The North Jersey Developmental Center, a 24-hour residential facility for developmentally disabled adults and children, is looking for individuals or groups willing to provide parties and entertainment for its clients. Contact NJDC Volunteer Services Office, P.O. Box 169, Totowa 07511.

✓ The Voluntary Action Center of Morris County is seeking individuals to fill the following volunteer positions. The agency is located at 36 South St., Morristown 07960.

Volunteer to be a part of history for a day during a summer fair, July 19, at a Morris County historic site. There are a variety of interesting characters to play and duties to perform. Or, arrive early in the day to help set up.

Volunteers are needed to entertain young people at a Sept. 18 carnival. Clowns, jugglers, magicians and others are needed. The children are recuperating from illnesses and funds raised will go toward this rehabilitation center's recreational supplies.

✓ The following is a sampling of some of the volunteer opportunities available through the Volunteer Center of Monmouth County, 227 E. Bergen Place, Red Bank 07701.

An organization that helps single parents in need is looking for individuals to become advocates for the parents, provide moral support and help them overcome some of their burdens. Training provided.

Agency that provides care for senior citizens needs volunteers willing to meet with the seniors who are in the program in order to assess whether their needs are being met.

A non-profit agency needs the assistance of someone experienced in non-profit management to become a member of the board and treasurer of

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# WPAT

WPAT 93 AM/FM

1396 BROAD STREET, CLIFTON, NJ 07013  
A Park Communications Station

201/345-9300

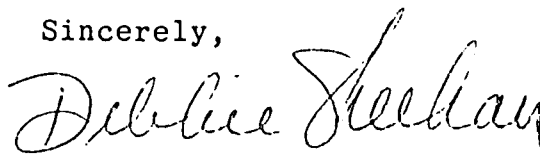
Dear Friend,

WPAT AM/FM is happy to inform you that both WPAT AM and WPAT FM were able to broadcast your organization's recent public service announcements. Your organization was highlighted during WPAT's daily Public Affairs feature, "Debbie Sheehan Reporting", broadcast at least five times daily on WPAT AM/FM.

WPAT wishes your organization continued success and hopes we can continue to serve you in the future. We would be pleased if you could show your appreciation by writing us a nice letter of thanks for our Public Files.

If you have any questions about your public service announcements on WPAT AM/FM, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,



Debbie Sheehan  
Director of News  
and Community Affairs



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STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS
----------------------------

Irvington Public Library Program

Lurline DaCosta

Newark Literacy Campaign

Marcia Wilson

East Orange Child Development Corporation

Margaret Oliver

Boland Rehabilitation Center

Kelly Ball

Gail Rose

Overlook Hospital

Eva Merino

Raquel Arciniegas

Catholic Community Services

Carmen Nieves Morales

Senior Service Corporation

Mamie Cromartie

The Center for Language Development

Rose Pierre

St. Michael's Medical Center

Sylvia Negrón

St. James Hospital

Esperanza Rodriguez

Bernie L. Edmonson Community Education Center

Nicole Innocent

Sheila Innocent

Great Commission Ministry

Rev. Roger Lamorte

Rigaud Racine

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<b>Tutor/Instructor of the Year Awards</b>
--

St. Michael's Medical Center

Linda Vargo  
Ana Ross

The Center for Language Development

Yahmin Shabaaz

Senior Service Corporation

Martha Reiner

Catholic Community Services

Joy Cifelli  
Armando Rubio

Overlook Hospital

Christine Daudelin  
George Solovay

Boland Rehabilitation Center

Veronica "Ronnie" Marshall

East Orange Child Development Center

Salley Moses  
Joanne St. Jacques

Newark Literacy Campaign

Georgia Allen

Irvington Public Library Program

Sally Friedman

Great Commission Ministry

Kettely Doxy  
Patrick Roger Lamorte  
Jean Marie Beljour

Bernie L. Edmonson Community Education Center

Angel Jackson  
Lenora Adams





## Faith Alford

FAITH ALFORD was born in Passaic, New Jersey, and has been a resident of Irvington for the past twelve years.

Ms. Alford has been employed by New Jersey Bell Telephone Company for the past twenty-three years. She is an active member of Fellowship Baptist Church where she serves as Financial Secretary and chairperson of the Social Issues Committee.

She includes among her community service duties — working as a Project Coordinator at the Irvington Public Library for the Irvington Literacy Program since October, 1986, where she trains others to teach adults to read, and she also spends time as a volunteer tutor.

Faith has been a member of the Irvington NAACP for the past ten years where she now serves as treasurer.

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE  
IRVINGTON BRANCH



OFFICERS

REV. WILLIAM RUTHERFORD  
President

HENRY GIBSON  
Vice President

EVA MASSEY  
Executive Secretary

FAITH ALFORD  
Treasurer

September 3, 1992

Ms. Loreli McConnell  
Director of Free Public Library  
Public Library - Civic Square  
Irvington, NJ 07111

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HON. JAMES JENKINS  
LEBBY JONES  
WILLIE LOVE  
PERCY JOHNSON  
KATHLEEN WITCHER  
EUGENE MASSEY  
LAWRENCE PERRY  
D. BILAL BEASLEY  
DAVID HAMMOND  
HON. DAVID GREGORY  
AL MORTEN  
SUDIE MOTT  
MARY TERRELL  
PEGGY COVINGTON

Dear Ms. McConnell:

October 15, 1992, at 7pm the Irvington Branch of the NAACP will have it's Annual Freedom Dinner at the Irvington Manor, 43 Washington Avenue, Irvington, New Jersey.

Ms. Faith Alford, Reverend Theodore Buckman, Mr. Ralph Gunter, and Reverend Elder Leroy Hodges, are our honoraries.

We are very proud, elated and blessed to have as our keynote speaker, Dr. Rogers Lewis, Irvington's Superintendent of Schools.

Enclosed are two ticket and we look forward to you joining us.

Please R.V.S.P. by October 1, 1992.

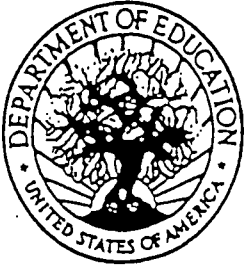
Via mail: P.O. Box 377  
Irvington, NJ 07111

Telephone: 201 373 7287  
201 373 6948

Sincerely

*Lawrence E. Perry*  
Lawrence E. Perry

FOR  
*[Signature]*



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI)  
Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC)



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